IN THE CLAIMS

Please amend the claims as follows:

1.(Amended) A digital recording and replay apparatus [(200)] adapted for use with a decoder [with on-screen message generator and inserter (520)], said digital recording and replay apparatus comprising:

a transducer [(251)] for reproducing a video representative digital signal from a recorded medium;

replay electronics [(220)] coupled to said transducer [(251)] for processing said video representative digital signal to produce an output signal bit stream [(221)], said output signal bit stream being provided to the decoder for producing a video signal therefrom;

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[a decoder [(117)] having an input coupled to said replay electronics [(220)] and an output which produces a video signal;]

a status message signal generator [(205/270)], responsive to an operating mode of said digital recording and replay apparatus [(200)], for generating a status message signal [(TAG/CMD)]; and

means coupled to receive the video signal from the decoder for inserting said status message signal into the video signal [(102)] decoded from said output signal bit stream [(221)].

REMARKS

Claims 1-3 are currently pending in this application, claim 1 being amended by this response. Claims 4-10 have been withdrawn from consideration.

Rejection of Claims 1-3 under 35 U.S.C 103(a)

Claims 1-3 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Matsumoto in view of Suetaka.

The present claimed invention discloses a digital recording and replay apparatus connected for use with a decoder. The digital recording and replay apparatus includes a transducer for reproducing a video representative digital signal from a recorded medium and replay electronics coupled to the transducer for processing the video representative

digital signal to produce an output signal bit stream. The output signal bit stream is provided to the decoder for producing a video signal. A status message signal generator generates a status message signal in response to an operating mode of the digital recording and replay apparatus. An insertion device is coupled to receive the video signal from the decoder and inserts the status message signal into the video signal thereby providing an on screen display of the status of the digital recording and replay apparatus during reproduction of a digital video signal.

Specifically, claim 1 recites:

> "A digital recording and replay apparatus ... comprising:
>
> a transducer for reproducing a video representative digital signal from a recorded medium;
>
> replay electronics coupled to said transducer for processing said video representative digital signal to produce an output signal bit stream, said output signal bit stream being provided to the decoder for producing a video signal therefrom;
>
> a status message signal generator, responsive to an operating mode of said digital recording and replay apparatus, for generating a status message signal; and
>
> means coupled to receive the video signal from the decoder for inserting said status message signal into the video signal decoded from said output signal bit stream."

The patent to Matsumoto discloses an apparatus for superimposing character data on a video signal. This device reads a compressed video signal from a disc, the video signal including a plurality of blocks having a header with character data. The character data is extracted from the video signal and serially inserted into the composite video signal by a synthesizer in a predetermined timing.

This is unlike the present claimed invention which is responsive to an operating status of the digital recording and replay apparatus and generates a signal based upon the detected status. The generated signal is then inserted into the video signal for display during reproduction. Matsumoto simply extracts character data from a recorded medium

and inserts the extracted data into a video signal recorded therewith on a medium. This device neither discloses nor suggests monitoring the status of the digital recording and replay apparatus, generation of a status signal in response to an operating status of the digital recording and replay apparatus and insertion of the generated signal into a reproduced video signal as in the present claimed invention.

The patent to Suetaka discloses a picture information processing apparatus wherein a picture signal is recorded on a medium along with a message signal for the picture. The message signal is entered by a key entry unit and recorded in the vertical flyback period of the picture signal. When the picture signal is read from the medium, the message signal is extracted and stored. The extracted signal is then arbitrarily synthesized with the picture signal to display the message and picture signals together on a display screen.

Similarly to Matsumoto, Suetaka records a video signal and a message signal on a medium and upon reproduction extracts the message signal for insertion into the video signal. This is unlike the present claimed invention in which a status signal is generated by the digital recording and replay apparatus in response to a status thereof. The status signal is then inserted into a video signal which has been decoded in a remotely located decoder. The status signal is indicative of the status of the digital recording and replay apparatus and is displayed with the video signal to indicate such status to a viewer. Unlike the present claimed invention, the patents to Matsumoto and Suetaka disclose recovering a video signal and a previously recorded message signal from a recorded medium and combining the signals for display. Thus, neither of these references monitor the status of the digital recording and replay apparatus and generate a signal based upon the monitored status for combination with the decoded digital video signal.

In view of the above remarks and amendments to the claims Applicant submits that the present invention is not unpatentable over the patents to Matsumoto and Suetaka when taken alone or in combination. It is thus respectfully submitted that the rejection of claims 1-3 is satisfied and should be withdrawn.

Applicant believes that the claims as amended are patentable over the reference, and the prior art of record. Applicant respectfully requests the withdrawal of the rejections and the allowance of claims 1–3.

Applicant has reviewed the prior art of record. It is respectfully submitted that these prior art references do not affect the patentability of the present claimed invention.

No fee is believed due with this response. However, should any fee be due please charge this additional fee to Deposit Account No. 07-0832.

Respectfully submitted
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